REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application. Claims 1-3, 5-10 and 12-31 are pending. Claims 1, 5, 6-8, 10, 12-14, 16, 21, 27, and 29 have been amended without introducing new matter. No claims have been canceled. No claims have been added.

CLAIM REJECTIONS

Claims 1-2, 5-10, 12-17, 19-22 and 24-30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,292,802 of Kessenich ("Kessenich") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,694,306 of Nishizawa ("Nishizawa"). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claim 1 as amended sets forth "**invoking a search execution business service using the VBC**" (Virtual Business Component) and "**searching** the database for data records matching the search criteria **using the search execution business service**" (Claim 1, emphasis added). In contrast, Kessenich and Nishizawa fail to disclose at least the above limitations. As noted in the Office Action, Kessenich fails to disclose a VBC (Office Action, p. 3). Thus, Kessenich does not disclose invoking a search execution business service using the VBC. Moreover, Nishizawa also fails to disclose invoking a search execution business service using the VBC. The Office Action analogized the virtual table 119 in Nishizawa to be the VBC (Office Action, p. 3). According to Nishizawa, the virtual table 119 is *a logical integration of multiple real databases* and the columns in the virtual table 119 are mapped to the columns in multiple real databases (Nishizawa, col. 5, ln. 35-38). Nishizawa does not disclose, suggest, or imply that the virtual table 119 invokes a search execution business service, which is used to search the database. Since a combination of Kessenich and Nishizawa does not include every

limitation set forth in claim 1, claim 1 is patentable over Kessenich and Nishizawa for at least this reason. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

For at least the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1, claims 10, 16, 21, and 27 are patentable over Kessenich and Nishizawa. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the rejections.

Claims 2-3, 5-9, 11-15, 17-20, 22-26, and 28-30 depend, directly or indirectly, from claims 10, 16, 21, and 27. Therefore, claims 2-3, 5-9, 11-15, 17-20, 22-26, and 28-30 are patentable over Kessenich and Nishizawa for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to claims 1, 10, 16, 21, and 27. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Furthermore, claim 7 recites, "caching the search results in *the search execution business service* to maintain persistency of the search results." In contrast, neither Kessenich nor Nishizawa discloses the above limitation. The Office Action analogizes the database server process 104 in Kessenich to be the search execution business service as claimed (Office Action, p. 4, last paragraph). According to Kessenich, records returned from the database are *cached locally by the web browser* (Kessenich, col. 18, ln. 43-46; emphasis added). However, the web browser 100 in Kessenich and the database server process 104 in Kessenich are distinct and separate modules (Kessenich, Fig. 1, modules 100 and 104). Therefore, Kessenich does not disclose caching the search results in *the search execution business service*.

Regarding Nishizawa, the reference discloses three types of cache means: (i) cache memories as built in conventional computer systems; (ii) WEB caches; and (iii) caches specially developed for databases. However, Nishizawa merely discloses that these methods cache query results without going into the specific details of how and

where the results are cached. (Nishizawa, col. 2, ln.52 – col. 3, ln. 28). In particular, Nishizawa does not disclose caching the search results in *the search execution business service.* Since neither Kessenich nor Nishizawa discloses at least the above limitation, a combination of Kessenich and Nishizawa does not render claim 7 obvious for at least this reason. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 14, 19, 25, and 29 are patentable over Kessenich in view of Nishizawa for at least the reason discussed above with respect to claim 7. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 3, 18, 23 and 31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,292,802 of Kessenich ("Kessenich") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,772,150 of Whitman ("Whitman"). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claims 3, 18, 23, and 31 depend from claims 1, 16, 21, and 27, respectively, and thus, include all limitations set forth in their respective base claims. For the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1, Kessenich fails to disclose all limitations in claims 3, 18, 23, and 31. Moreover, Whitman fails to make up the deficiencies in Kessenich. Whitman discloses a web server 131 and a query server 132 to access a HTML database 134 and a bibliographic database 133, respectively, and does not teach or suggest a VBC. Since a combination of Kessenich and Whitman does not include every limitation in claims 3, 18, 23, and 31, claims 3, 18, 23, and 31 are patentable over Kessenich and Whitman for at least this reason. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections.
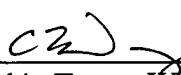
CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections have been overcome by the remarks, and that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the rejections be withdrawn and the pending claims be allowed.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. If any other petition is necessary for consideration of this paper, it is hereby so petitioned.

If there are any additional charges, please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any fee deficiency that may be due.

Respectfully submitted,
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